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United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING
Reclamation and Enforcement
Western Region Office
1999 Broadway, Suite 3320
Denver, CO 80202-3050



UT-0016

October 20, 2010

Utah Division of Oil, Gas, & Mining
Coal Regulatory Program
1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210
P.O. Box 145801
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801

RE: PacifiCorp. - "Deer Creek" Mine - Application for a Permit Revision, Response to
Deficiencies to Volume 11 Update Task No. 3613

Dear Sir or Madam:

This is in response to the Utah Division of Oil, Gas & Mining's (UT-DOGM) September 16, 2010, request for a decision, under 30 CFR 944.30, whether the above subject permit revision constitutes a mining plan modification.

Mining plan approvals by the Secretary of the Interior are required under the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, 30 U.S.C. 181, *et seq.* before coal mining can occur on Federal lands. This letter serves to document OSM's determination whether or not a mining plan approval from the Secretary is required for the above permitting action.

OSM's review of the Application for a Permit Revision, Response to Deficiencies to Volume 11 Update, has determined that it addresses deficiencies found by UT-DOGM during the review of the original permit revision application to update Volume 11 of the approved Permit Application Package (PAP) for the Deer Creek mine, Utah State permit C/015/0018.

Based on a review of the activities associated with the permit revision, OSM has determined that the proposal does not meet the requirements of 30 CFR PART 740 and PART 746. Therefore, the proposed permit revision does not constitute a mining plan action requiring Secretarial approval.

OSM's decision was based solely upon the Federal regulations under 30 CFR PART 746 and not the technical aspects of the revision application itself. Consequently, OSM's decision does not relieve UT-DOGM from coordinating the review and approval of the Application for a Permit Revision, Response to Deficiencies to Volume 11 Update, with other Federal agencies for compliance with other Federal regulations.

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OSM also electronically transmitted the September 16, 2010, request to the Bureau of Land Management and the USDA Forest Service for their review and comment.

Neither agency provided comments in the thirty day time frame established by the Federal regulations under 30 CFR 944.30, Article VI. D.

Please notify the applicant of our decision on this matter.

Should you have any questions regarding this letter or approval, please contact Carl R. Johnston, Utah Federal Lands coordinator, at (303) 293-5038.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Robert Postle', is written over a horizontal line.

Robert Postle
Manager, Field Operations Branch

cc: BLM - Utah State Office
BLM - Price Field Office
USFS - Manti-La Sal NF
Denver Field Division